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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health  
for 1950



BRIGHTLINGSEA :  
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1951



# Brightlingsea Urban District Council.

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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1950.

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Chairman : Cr. C. O. FENSOM, J P.

Vice-Chairman : Cr. Q. R. CLARKE.

### **Members of the Public Health Committee :**

Chairman : Cr. H. G. POLLEY, J.P., C.C.

Cr. R. V. CROOK

Cr. C. O. FENSOM, J.P.

Cr. Q. R. BRASTED

Cr. I. C. OSBORN

### **Public Health Officers :**

F. GROARKE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

R. BOAST, A.R.I.C.S., Cert. S.I.E., J.B.,  
Sanitary Inspector.

Surveyor.

Meat and Food Inspector.

Officer under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919

I. S. PRIEST, Waterworks Manager.

*Town Hall,  
Brightlingsea.  
September 1951.*

**To the Chairman and Members of the Brightlingsea Urban  
District Council.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report which deals with health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1950.

I took up my appointment as Medical Officer of Health in June 1950, and my responsibility for the work dates from that month onwards.

The vital statistics for the year, in-so-far as they may be used as an index of the general health of the population, may be said to be satisfactory.

Our death rate is lower and our birth rate is equal to those for England and Wales.

Infant mortality rate compares very favourably, but our tuberculosis death rate is a little on the high side compared, again with England and Wales.

In presenting this report, I wish to thank the Council for their support, and also to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation received from the various officers and their departments of the Council and particularly to the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. Boast.

I would like also to convey my thanks to my predecessor Dr. J. Ramsbottom, for the help he has afforded to me in my early days as your Medical Officer of Health.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F. GROARKE.

Medical Officer of Health.

# Statistical Memorandum.

Urban District	Urban District of Brightlingsea
Area in acres	2,873
Population : 1931 Census	4,145
1950 Registrar General's Estimate	4,498
Density of Population per acre	1.5
Rateable Value	£22,585
Sum represented by penny rate	£88
Number of inhabited houses	1,648
Total Live Births	61
Birth Rate	13.56
Birth rate corrected	15.86
Total still births	2
Still birth rate	31.74
Total deaths	65
Death rate	12.22
Death rate corrected	7.82
Death of Infants under 1 year of age	1
Infantile Mortality	16.39
Number of Illegitimate births	3
Percentage of Total Births	4.9
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
Cancer Death rate	2445
Tuberculosis Death rate	444

## VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) LIVE BIRTHS :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	25	33	58
Illegitimate	—	3	3
	25	36	61

Birth rate 13.56 per 1,000 population  
 Percentage of illegitimate births 4.9

The birth rate of England and Wales was 15.8 per 1,000 population, our rate is therefore 2.24 below that for the country generally.

The reason for this inequality is due to the difference in the age and sex distribution of the Urban District from the country as a whole.

A comparability factor is therefore issued by the Registrar General. The figure for Brightlingsea is 1.17 giving a corrected birth rate of 15.86.

### (b) STILL BIRTHS.

There were 2 still births during the year, which is equivalent to a rate of 31.74 per 1,000 births.

### (c) DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Urban District was 65, of which 28 were males and 37 were females. This is equal to a death rate of 12.22 per 1,000 population compared with a rate of 11.6 for the country generally.

This inequality is due to the reasons given in the paragraph on Births. The comparability factor is 0.64 giving a corrected death rate of 7.82.

Of the 65 deaths, the number over the age of 65 years totalled 47, giving a percentage of 78.6.

The causes of death are given in Table II.

(d) INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

There was 1 death of children under 1 year of age. The infantile mortality rate is based on the number of live births registered in the year, i.e. 61, is equivalent to a rate of 16.39 per 1,000 births compared with a rate of 29.8 for the country.

(e) Among the principal causes of death are the following :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	2
Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	2
Bronchitis	.....	.....	.....	1
Cancer	.....	.....	.....	11
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	.....	.....	.....	12
Heart Disease	.....	.....	.....	28

TABLE I

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1950.

Under 1 year	.....	.....	.....	1
1 and under 2 years	.....	.....	.....	—
2 " " 5 "	.....	.....	.....	—
5 " " 15 "	.....	.....	.....	—
15 " " 25 "	.....	.....	.....	—
25 " " 35 "	.....	.....	.....	1
35 " " 45 "	.....	.....	.....	—
45 " " 55 "	.....	.....	.....	6
55 " " 65 "	.....	.....	.....	10
65 " " 75 "	.....	.....	.....	10
75 and upwards	.....	.....	.....	37
Total				65

TABLE II

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1950 (R.G.)

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	—	2
Syphilitic disease	—	1	1
Cancer (all sites)	5	6	11
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	8	12
Heart Disease	11	17	28
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	—	2
Pneumonia	—	2	2
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	2
All other accidents	1	—	1
	28	37	65

TABLE III.

INFANTILE DEATHS.

The following table shows the cause of, and the age at death, of the 1 infantile death registered :—

	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 week	1 week to 1 month
Prematurity	—	1	—

# TABLE IV.

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

Birth rates, Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1950. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

### RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION.

BIRTHS		B.U.D.C.	England & Wales
Live Births (corrected)	.....	15.86	15.8
Still Births	.....	0.44	0.37
DEATHS			
All Causes (corrected)	.....	7.82	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	.....	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	.....	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria	.....	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	.....	0.44	0.36
Influenza	.....	0.00	0.10
Smallpox	.....	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including			
Polioencephalitis)	.....	0.00	0.02
Pneumonia	.....	0.44	0.46
NOTIFICATIONS (corrected)			
Typhoid Fever	.....	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	.....	0.00	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	.....	0.00	0.03
Scarlet Fever	.....	7.55	1.50
Whooping Cough	.....	14.22	3.60
Diphtheria	.....	0.00	0.02
Erysipelas	.....	0.00	0.17
Smallpox	.....	0.00	0.00
Measles	.....	1.33	8.39
Pneumonia	.....	0.00	0.70
Acute Poliomyelitis (including			
Polioencephalitis Paralytic)	.....	0.00	0.13
Non-Paralytic	.....	0.00	0.05
Food Poisoning	.....	0.00	0.17

### RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

DEATHS			
All causes under 1 year of age	.....	16.39	29.8 (a)
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years			
of age	.....	0.00	1.9
NOTIFICATIONS (corrected)			
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	.....	0.00	5.81

### MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

Cause	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)		Rates per million Women aged 15-44	
	B.U.D.C.	E. & W.	B.U.D.C.	E. & W.
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.09	—	7
Other abortion	0.00	0.05	—	4
Complication of pregnancy & delivery	0.00	0.54	—	—
Sepsis of childbirth & the puerperium	0.00			
Other complications of the puerperium	0.00	0.15		

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.



## Section B.

# General Provision of Health Services

Medical Officer of Health : F. GROARKE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Also Assistant County Medical Officer, and Medical Officer for Tendring R.D.C., Clacton U.D.C., Frinton & Walton U.D.C.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Borough General Hospital, Ipswich.

Pathological examinations are carried out at the Essex County Hospital Colchester.

The bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk supplies and ice cream, is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

Samples for the chemical analysis of water and sewage are still sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London S.W.I.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

This service is maintained by the County Council.

HOSPITALS. (N. E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.)

Essex County Hospital, Colchester and Clacton District Hospital serve the Area.

Maternity cases are admitted to the Maternity Hospital, 32, Lexden Road, Colchester.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Myland Hospital, Colchester.

### MIDWIVES AND HOME NURSING.

It is a duty of the Local Health Authority to provide domiciliary midwives, and nurses to attend persons who require nursing in their own homes. For this purpose a District Nurse Midwife is employed in the Urban District.

### CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

A County Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held in the New Church School Room each Wednesday from 2 to 4.30 p.m.

Anti-diphtheria inoculations are carried out on the first Wednesday in each month at 10 a.m. also boosting doses to children over 7 years of age at the New Church School Room.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948.

It was not necessary during 1950 to take action under Section 47 of this Act which empowers Local Authorities to remove to hospital persons in need of care and attention.



## Section C.

# Sanitary Circumstances of the Area, including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

### WATER.

Below is given a recent analysis report taken from the mains of the Lower Park Waterworks :

#### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance .....	Clear and Bright
Colour .....	Nil
Reaction pH. ....	7.3
Electric Conductivity .....	1020
Chlorine present as Chloride .....	170
Hardness Total .....	200
Carbonate .....	175
Non-Carbonate .....	25
Nitrate Nitrogen .....	8.4
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	0.049
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	0.000
Metals : Iron .....	Less than 0.03
Other metals .....	Absent
Turbidity .....	Nil
Odour .....	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide .....	13
Total Solids .....	680
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate .....	175
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	Less than 0.01
Oxygen Absorbed .....	0.25
Residual Chlorine .....	absent

### Remarks.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its somewhat high content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality is of a high standard.

These results are consistent with a water which, from the aspect of the chemical analysis, is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

No. of samples taken	Sources	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
5	Church Road Waterworks	5	Nil
5	Lower Park Road Waterworks	5	Nil
<hr/> 10		<hr/> 10	<hr/> Nil

Resulting from informal action, a new 4 inch borehole has been sunk at Lower Marsh Farm, and arrangements have been made to improve the supply at Moverons Farm Cottages.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Several lengths of household drains which were found, on inspection, to be defective have been renewed during the year, and efforts to abolish obsolete drainage work are being maintained.

The sewage disposal works continue to produce a very satisfactory effluent, but there is increasing evidence that certain sections of the sewerage are not adequate to carry storm water during heavy downfalls. Over seventy Council Houses have been erected during recent years and these houses, together with new road drainage works on the housing estate, undoubtedly add considerably to the load on sewers in low lying parts of the town near the Disposal Works. At York Road, the sewer overflows through road and house gullies during abnormally heavy rainstorms, and in view of complaints received from two house holders in the area, a scheme for construction of a large relief sewer extending from the lower drainage area to the disposal works, is being prepared.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Infested Houses :

(a)	Council Houses	Nil
(b)	Other Houses	I

Number of Houses Disinfected :

(a)	Council Houses	Nil
(b)	Other Houses	I

## FACTORIES

For particulars of inspections of premises and action taken, see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

# Report of the Sanitary Inspector, 1950.

The principal inspections and work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's department during the year were as follows :

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS :

(a) General inspections for repairs, etc.	.....	45
(b) Complaints investigated	.....	30
(c) Reinspections	.....	88
(d) Houses measured for overcrowding (Form ' B ')	.....	5
(e) Overcrowding reinspections	.....	2

## GENERAL INSPECTIONS :

Bakehouses	.....	8
Complaints investigated	.....	47
Dairies and Milkshops	.....	14
Disinfections	.....	14
Factories and Workshops	.....	45
Fish Friers	.....	4
Food Stores	.....	11
Hairdressers	.....	3
Infectious Diseases investigated	.....	31
Public Houses	.....	11
Public Conveniences	.....	162
Rat Infestation	.....	28
Refuse Disposal	.....	21
Schools	.....	3
Sewers, Ditches, Drains and Cesspools	.....	19
Shops	.....	11
Slaughterhouses	.....	4
Tents, Vans and Sheds	.....	2
Verminous Premises	.....	2
Water Supplies	.....	15
Ice Cream Dealers	.....	32
		<hr/>
		657

## STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED :

Housing Act	.....	2
Public Health Act	.....	Nil
Other Acts	.....	Nil

## INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED .

In connection with all inspections	.....	122
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## CONTRAVENTIONS AND DEFECTS REMEDIED :

Contraventions and Defects found	.....	130
Contraventions and Defects remedied (Approx.)	.....	120
Contraventions and Defects outstanding	„	10

## PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

The Council's Refuse Collection Vehicle has continued to remove refuse from every household once a week and in addition has been used for conveying topsoil to the refuse dump for the purpose of covering refuse in accordance with the requirements of controlled tipping. During the year, special efforts were made to increase collections of waste paper for salvage, and 55 tons of such paper were sent to the paper mills, compared with 40 tons sold during 1949.

In view of the population of the district it would be uneconomic to employ special labour to recover other materials such as iron, bottles or rags from the refuse dump, but the sole right to collect these materials direct from the tip, has been granted to a salvage merchant for the payment of a fee.

## FACTORY INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made under the Factories Acts of 1937 and 1948 :—

Premises	No. on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6, are enforced by Local Authorities	4	8	1	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	24	37	12	—
Totals	28	45	13	—

### Cases in which DEFECTS were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insptr.	Referred By H.M. Insptr.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	12	12	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences, (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Defective	11	11	—	—	—
(c) Not separate	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	24	23			

### Outwork :

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list req. by Sect. 110 (1) (c).	No. of cases of default in sending lists	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel, (Making, etc.)	22	—	—

## DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

With the coming into force of The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the Council became responsible for dealing with rat infestation on Agricultural land, and printed circulars giving details of the main provisions of this Act, were sent to all farmers in the district.

Approximately 20% of the sewer manholes in the sewerage system, were "test baited" but results showed that no appreciable infestation by rats, exists in the sewers.

The only major rat infestation continues to be centred at the Council Refuse Dump and routine poisoning has been carried out at the dump, throughout the year. During the month of October, a particularly successful treatment of the dump was carried out and 289 dead rats were afterwards found.

Complaints of small infestations in the town were dealt with by inspection and poisoning, as they were received.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Only two cases of verminous premises occurred—one a bad case of Scabies, and the other a case of Bed Bugs. Both sets of premises were dealt with by fumigation, using Gammexane/D.D.T. compounds.

## LICENCED PREMISES.

In view of the extreme importance of scrupulous hygiene in licenced premises, special attention was again paid to inspections of public houses, and in particular to beer engines, beer pipes, and facilities for washing glasses.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY :

Routine inspections of all dairies and milk shops, were carried out, and standards of cleanliness have improved considerably during recent years. Results of sampling were as follows :-

Type of Milk	Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Ordinary	8	6	2
Pasteurised	7	7	—
	—	—	—
Totals	15	13	2

With the exception of one small retailer, all milk sold in the district is either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested, and the two unsatisfactory samples were obtained from this small retailer selling raw ungraded milk. Of seven retailers in the area, six sell Pasteurised Milk, and Tuberculin Tested Milk only.

### MEAT:

31 pigs slaughtered under private licence were inspected, and routine inspections of butchers shops and meat stores, were continued. The following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption :

- 3 Pig's Heads, (Tuberculosis)
- 106 lbs. Mutton, (Bone Taint)
- 1 Beasts Head and Tongue (Decomposition)
- 1 Beasts Liver, (Jaundice)

### UNFIT FOOD :

The undermentioned foodstuffs were also condemned :

- 5 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. Bacon (Decomposition)
- 1 tin Beans (Pierced or blown)
- 1 tin Crab "
- 11 tins Milk "
- 2 tins Peaches "
- 1 tin Veal Loaf "
- 5 tins Minced Beef "
- 6 tins Pilchards "
- 1 tin Pears "
- 2 tins Ox Tongue "
- 1 tin Ham "
- 21 dozen Danish Eggs (Broken)

## ICE CREAM :

All ice cream sold in the district is retailed either in the form of wrapped blocks or in cartons, and no "loose" ice cream is sold. In every case the material is stored in proprietary refrigerator cabinets.

There is only one manufacturer in the district and the remaining twelve retailers obtain supplies from well known manufacturers.

Results of sampling as follows.

Number of samples complying with Ministry of Health Provisional.

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
10	5	3	Nil



## Section D.

# Housing.

### I.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year 1950 :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts .....	75
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	155
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included in (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 .....	21
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	21
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under (3) ) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation .....	51

### II.—Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .....	42
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### III.—Action under Statutory Powers :—

(a) Proceeding under Housing Act 1936, Secs. 9, 10, and 16 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners .....	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .....	2
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners .....	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .....	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, Secs. 11, and 13 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished .....	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, Sec. 12 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	Nil

### Housing Act 1936.

Inspections re Permitted Numbers .....	Nil
Inspections re Overcrowding .....	7
Enquiries for other Local Authorities .....	Nil
Visits re permits for Timber (Flooring) .....	10
Visits re Squatters .....	Nil



# NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1950.

By Private Enterprise	.....	.....	.....	Houses	Nil
				Bungalows	2
By the Council	.....	.....	.....	Houses	12
				Total	14

Total Houses erected since 1946 :—

1946	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
1947	.....	.....	.....	.....	41
1948	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
1949	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
1950	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
					90

In view of the grave shortage of housing, efforts have been directed mainly towards securing essential repairs in order to prevent old houses from becoming unfit for habitation.

Owing to continually rising costs of repairs, and the fact that rents are controlled, great difficulty has been experienced in persuading property owners to carry out essential works, but nevertheless, as a result of informal action, the necessary repairs have generally been carried out, and it was only necessary to serve two Statutory Notices during the year.

## SECTION E.

# Inspection of Food.

### MILK PRODUCTION.

With regard to work carried out under the Milk and Dairies Orders, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report—Section C.

### MEAT.

Routine slaughtering is not carried out in Brightlingsea except under private licence. Particulars of meat and other foods inspected, see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

### SHELLFISH (Mulluxan).

During 1950, 1,762,404 Oysters were passed through the Purification Tanks at Brightlingsea.

The number for the previous years were :—

1949	.....	.....	.....	1,757,793
1948	.....	.....	.....	2,044,741
1947	.....	.....	.....	1,294,900
1946	.....	.....	.....	2,325,364
1945	.....	.....	.....	1,665,347
1944	.....	.....	.....	943,082
1943	.....	.....	.....	940,658
1942	.....	.....	.....	809,600
1941	.....	.....	.....	2,055,714
1940	.....	.....	.....	2,021,293

## Section F.

# Prevention and Control of Infectious and other Diseases.

The following figures show the number of cases of infectious diseases which were notified in the district during 1950:—

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.
Jaundice	3	—	—
Measles	6	—	—
Scarlet Fever	34	2	—
Whooping Cough	64	—	—
Totals	107	2	—

### SCARLET FEVER.

Scarlet Fever was prevalent this year, but the disease was of a mild type.

Notifications of Measles were low, while Whooping Cough was prevalent between the middle of May to the end of August, during which time most of the susceptible children appear to have contracted the disease.

### DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION.

For the seventh year in succession, Brightlingsea has been free from Diphtheria.

Immunisation is a duty of the Local Health Authority which is the Essex County Council, and Diphtheria immunisation is carried out on the first Wednesday in the month at the New Church School Room.

Immunisation is also carried out by the patients' own Doctors who are recompensed for these inoculations by the Local Health Authority.

As an example of what can be achieved quickly when a large part of the population makes up its mind to co-operate in a sustained effort to eradicate a killing disease, Diphtheria is outstanding.

It can be kept down only by sustained effort.

During 1950, 44 children between one and five years, and 16 between 5 and 15 years received the full course of inoculations at the Clinic, New Church School Room.

143 children received boosting doses at the Brightlingsea Primary National School.

### CANCER.

Eleven deaths were caused by this disease giving a rate per million of the population of 2,445 compared to 1945 for England and Wales.

A disease such as Cancer is bound to produce more deaths in an aging population than in a population with a large proportion of young people, also some diseases were not so readily diagnosed during last century as they are today with our X-rays, well equipped laboratories and improved facilities for diagnosis. These two factors account in part for the fact that the Cancer death rate has doubled since 1875. In recent

years however, this index has been falling amongst women, and it shows signs of approaching its crest for men.

For Cancer of some parts of the body, death rates are coming down at every age; for other parts they are falling at younger ages though not yet in the later periods of life, but for a few organs such as the lungs, mortality seems to be increasing.

If research workers can find out why Cancer of the lungs is increasing, the way to prevention may be found.

### TUBERCULOSIS 1950.

Age groups of the four cases notified and two deaths during the year are given in the table below :—

Ages in Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5-10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	3	1	—	2	—	—	—

New cases of Tuberculosis and deaths since 1939 :—

Year.	New cases.	Deaths.
1939	2	2
1940	0	2
1941	4	5
1942	5	3
1943	4	2
1944	4	6
1945	5	1
1946	5	0
1947	9	1
1948	2	2
1949	5	2
1950	4	2

The following figures give the number of cases on the Register at the end of 1950 :—

Respiratory, Male	12	Non-Respiratory, Male	8
Respiratory, Female	10	Non-Respiratory, Female	5
	<u>22</u>		<u>13</u>

TOTAL CASES ON REGISTER AT END OF 1950 ..... 35

The age groups of the cases on the register are as follows:—

Age groups in years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
0- 1	1	—	—	—	1
5-15	—	1	4	2	7
15-25	2	2	2	—	6
25-35	2	4	1	2	9
35-45	3	1	—	—	4
45-55	3	1	1	—	5
55-65	1	1	—	—	2
65 and upwards	—	—	—	1	1
	12	10	8	5	35

Two deaths were caused by this disease, both being due to pulmonary Tuberculosis. This gives us a death rate per million of the population of 444 which compares unfavourably with the figure for England and Wales which is 364, but is an improvement on the figure of 670 for the previous year.

Four new cases were notified during the year.

One of the tragedies of this disease is that the greatest incidence occurs in the age group from fifteen to forty-five; the majority occurring within the twenty-five to thirty-five years group.